AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The claims have been amended as follows:

1-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) A device for contrast enhancement for display devices, comprising

a focusing optical device including a lens for focusing incident light,

a diaphragm with at least one aperture arranged, relative to the incident light, behind the lens, ~~and~~

a light disposal element for absorbing light arranged, relative to the incident light, behind the diaphragm, wherein the optical device is arranged such that it focuses incident light and directs it through the at least one aperture to the light disposal element for absorbing extra light, and

at least one light source arranged between the focusing optical device and the diaphragm, wherein a lens is used for focusing the emitted light from the light source, the light source supplying illumination of a display element viewable by a viewer and wherein at least one light source is arranged beside the lens.

51. (Withdrawn) A device for contrast enhancement for display devices, comprising

a light scattering device including a divergent lens and/or a mirror arrangement, and

a light disposal element for deflecting and/or absorbing light, wherein the light scattering device directs incident light to the light disposal element for deflecting and/or absorbing light.

52. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 50, wherein the light disposal element comprises an absorbing cavity arranged, relative to the incident light, behind the diaphragm.

53. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 52, wherein the device comprises several diaphragms arranged adjacent to each other directing light to plural apertures.

54. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 53, wherein the diaphragms and/or the apertures have different sizes.

55. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 54, wherein the size of at least one of said apertures is adjustable.

56. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 53 comprising plural focusing optical devices, wherein the focusing optical devices correspond in number to said several diaphragms and are arranged in a regular pattern.

57. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 50, wherein said focusing optical device is an elongate lens and wherein said diaphragm is a slit diaphragm.

58. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 50, wherein the focusing optical device is separated from the diaphragm by an adjustable distance.

59-61. (Cancelled)

62. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim ~~59~~50, wherein said light source is adjacent said diaphragm.

63. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 62, wherein said light source passively reflects light.

64. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 50, wherein the diaphragm is a liquid crystal element.

65. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 62, wherein the light source is in the form of a structure that is sheet-like and has an opening, wherein the size of the opening is at least equal to ~~in~~ the size of the diaphragm aperture ~~or larger~~.

66. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 50, wherein the light disposal element ~~deflects or~~ absorbs extraneous light, the angle of incidence of the extraneous light being determined with the aid of sensors to facilitate adjustment of the position of the diaphragm, the size of the aperture and/or its position.

67. (Withdrawn) A method for contrast enhancement for display devices intended for use in incident light comprising the steps of:

focusing and/or scattering the incident light by a lens and/or mirror arrangement, and

creating a dark background by absorbing and/or deflecting the incident light.

68. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 67 further comprising emitting from proximity to the dark background at least one active and/or passive light source as part of a desired display image.

69. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 68, further comprising directing the incident light through a diaphragm.

70. (Currently Amended) A method for contrast enhancement for display devices, comprising

focusing an optical device including a lens for focusing incident light,

providing a diaphragm with at least one aperture arranged, relative to the incident light, behind the lens, ~~and~~

absorbing light using a light disposal element arranged, relative to the incident light, behind the diaphragm, wherein the optical device is arranged such that it focuses incident light and directs it through the at least one aperture to the light disposal element for absorbing extra light, and

arranging at least one light source between the focusing optical device and the diaphragm,

providing a lens for focusing the emitted light from the light source, the light source supplying illumination of a display element viewable by a viewer, and wherein at least one light source is arranged beside the lens.